

SENATE BILL 859

By Dickerson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 3, relative to instructional supplies  
provided to first year teachers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-3-359, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(e)

(1) As used in this subsection (e), "first year teacher" means a teacher:

(A) Who receives a license pursuant to chapter 5, part 1 of this title from the department of education; and

(B) Who has not previously worked as a licensed teacher in any school within this state.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (a), beginning in the 2017-2018 school year and annually thereafter, there is included in the Tennessee BEP an amount of money sufficient to pay five hundred dollars (\$500) for every first year teacher in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12), subject to available appropriations. The entire five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be given to each first year teacher by October 31 of each school year so that the teacher may spend it at any time during the school year on instructional supplies as determined necessary by the teacher.

(3) This subsection (e) shall not apply to any teacher who receives a temporary permit to teach pursuant to § 49-5-106.

(4) A first year teacher shall only receive the money allowed in subdivision (e)(2) one (1) time.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.